# Advanture Morine magazine

# 2019 Grinder Nationals

SUMMER 2019



# **Contents**

**SUMMER 2019** 



05	Camping & Glamping
13	Climbing in Morocco
25	2019 Grinder Nationals
33	Product Reviews
41	Target Roundup
43	Shooting & Hunting Product
	Reviews

- 46 First Deer Hunt
- **53** Breakdown AR-15
- 58 300 Blackout Upper





Assistant Editor: **Debbie Farrar** 

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## Blister Free Running



Nature's Temperature Regulator





by Lindsey Gubler

As we approach the National Camping Month/National Great Outdoors Month there are some amazing destinations to consider for your next adventure. Whether you are a camper or a glamper here are some great options for some of the most beautiful parks in America.





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#### Lake Powell

The Wahweap RV and Campground that is located a short walk from the lake offers a "glamping" experience with their three new Airstream signature campers that are available for rent. A two-night



minimum is required. The dry tent experience is self-contained with a general store, coin-operated laundry and shower facilities offered nearby.

Location: Straddling the Arizona-Utah border, the 186-mile Lake Powell lies within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and features nearly 2,000 miles of shoreline, 96 major side canyons, sapphire blue water and towering red sandstone cliffs, buttes and sandy beaches. Lake Powell offers waterfront property and abundant outdoor activities including houseboating, camping, kayaking, fishing, waterskiing, rafting, hiking, golfing, or simply relaxing on the shore.

www.lakepowell.com



#### **Denali National Park**

Six campgrounds throughout the park offer RV and tent campers a variety of options and amenities, with varying seasons of availability and restrictions. Location: Located at approximately Milepost 236 of the George Park Highway, Denali National Park and Preserve lies deep within the Alaskan Bush between Anchorage and Fairbanks. Home to Mount McKinley, the tallest peak in North America, and abundant wildlife — grizzly bears, moose, Dall sheep and caribou, the park encompasses tundra, taiga and alpine ecosystems. Denali National Park is

open year-round, with its main visitor season occurring mid-May through mid-September.

www.denaliparkvillage.com



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**Glacier Bay: Bartlett Cove Campground** 

The Campground features bear-resistant food caches, firewood and a warming hut. Fire permits are required.

Location: Named a World Heritage Site in 1992, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve encompasses 3.3 million remote acres outside of Juneau in Alaska's Inside Passage. It is an icy refuge for orca, humpback whales, endangered Stellar sea lions, birds, mammals; and home to majestic glaciers. *www.visitglacierbay.com* 

#### Zephyr Cove

Located on Lake Tahoe's South Shore within walking distance from the resort's amenities, three new Airstream signature campers are available year-round, offering a "glamping" element. A two-night minimum

is required for booking. The campground has 93 RV sites, 57 tent sites and features complimentary showers/restrooms, snow removal service, an outdoor patio at the four seasons building, laundry facilities, and cable TV connectivity.

Location: Nestled in the South Lake Tahoe area of Nevada, Zephyr Cove Resort & Lake Tahoe Cruises are set apart from more densely populated areas around the lake. Guests are steps away



from the shore, with easy access to all the adventures and activities South Lake Tahoe has to offer. The property is in close proximity to Heavenly Valley ski area and state line casinos/nightlife.

www.zephyrcove.com



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#### Mesa Verde National Park:

#### Morefield Campground

Located in a large wooded area four miles within the park, the 300-site campground features 15 full hook-up RV sites, 17 group sites; and close to 267 dry tent/RV sites. Facilities include hot showers, coin-op laundry, access to firewood and other camping supplies, and the Knife Edge Cafe. Location: Located in the southwest corner of Colorado in the Four Corners region of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, Mesa Verde National Park lies off Highway 160 between the historic mining towns of Durango and Cortez, both accessible by daily flights. The park is open year-round; coach tours, lodging and camping are available mid-April through mid-October.

www.visitmesaverde.com

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# CLIMBING IN MOROCCO

by Branndon Bargo

photos by Greg Bargo

Few places in the world bring about feelings, emotions, and excitement for the exotic with just a name. Morocco is one of those places. Most people think of Morocco as a hot, desolate, desert filled country known for its vast Saharan sand dunes. But in fact, much of the country is just the opposite. I wanted to visit the Morocco most people don't get to see.

The North African country is geographically diverse. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea in the North, the Atlantic Ocean on its Western border, the Saharan desert covering the East and South, and right down the middle of the country are the impressively large Atlas Mountains.

Mt. Toubkal located in the Atlas range is the highest peak in both Morocco and all of North Africa standing at an impressive height of 13,671 feet (4167 meters). I invited a group of my friends to attempt a winter ascent. This trip would prove to be a greater challenge, provide cooler weather, and give us a more pleasant atmosphere with less climbers on the mountain.

Our adventure began in the big bustling city of Marrakech with its ancient castles, and its labyrinthine streets. I have traveled to 49 countries. When I visit a new place, I make it a point to try and spend one to two days getting acclimated to the people, place and culture before heading out to the more remote mountainous areas. If possible, I try to arrange a meeting with a local to find out more about the area - what things I should see that I may not know about, and what things to be aware of. Two weeks before flying out I read about two girls being murdered in a horrific way by former ISIS members on the exact trail we were about to take to the summit of Toubkal. This was a bit unsettling, especially since I had just been telling our group that Morocco is an extremely safe country and there was nothing to worry about. To put us all at ease I contacted my friend Jeremy Jones, owner of the local climbing company, Climb Morocco, based in Marrakech. As soon as we arrived to Morocco, we arranged a meeting with Jeremy at our riad. He confirmed all of my research into the incident and said that as unfortunate as this incident was this type of thing is unheard of in Morocco. In fact, the 4 men who perpetrated the murder were arrested the day after it happened. To make sure nothing else occurred the government was taking extra precautions in the area and on the mountain. We were now required to drive through a check point and show our passport information as we arrived at the village of Imlil, the small mountain village at the base of the mountain. We would also have checkpoints all the way up the mountain, and finally, we would need a mandatory local guide. Jeremy was able to find all of this out for us as well as connect us with a local Berber guide that would take us up the mountain for \$80. All of this would have been difficult to figure out on our own without the help of Jeremy and were very thankful as we said our goodbyes.

# BRAVING THE COLD?

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The next day we drove our rental van 2 hours south to the town of Imlil. The quaint mountain village made up mostly of Berber people is located in the foothills of the Atlas and at about 6,000 feet which is a great place to acclimate. However, we were prepared for the altitude and made our stop a brief one, only to pick up our guide Mohammed.

Mohammed is short, stocky, and built for the mountains. Though his English is very limited, that did not prevent him from trying to crack jokes. He also knew everyone on the mountain. He and his dad have a donkey business carrying supplies to the store owners. The owners live and work in small wooden shacks lining the trail from top to bottom. Mohammed as well as all the other locals we met were extremely hospitable. They most often showed this hospitality by inviting us to sit down, drink mint tea with them, and talk about life. It seemed as though they were trying to say without saying: slow down, enjoy life, and take it all in with just a hot sip of tea.



We checked in with the police at the beginning of the trail head for our first of four new mandatory checkpoints. After about 30 minutes, we passed the area where the two girls had been killed. It was a spot marked by a large boulder and in such a beautiful setting it was hard to wrap our heads around the events that had taken place just a few short weeks before.

The weather was a perfect 60 degrees and sunny, as we made our way up the rugged and rocky trail with its relentless switchbacks. The total elevation gain from trail head to summit is 7,600 feet. This is pretty impressive for a Saharan peak considering most major Colorado 14ers have closer to 4,000 feet of elevation gain.



Most groups stop at one of two large mountain huts. The huts rest at about 10,000 feet and mark the half way point to the peak. We stayed in the CAF Refuge run by the French Alpine Club. These large dormitory styled stone huts have bunk beds with basic down mattreses and also serve meals. But don't be fooled into thinking they are luxurious; they can be a bit dark, dank, claustrophobic, and downright cold. In the summer, many prefer tents to the huts. In the winter, the huts are the preferred choice due to frigid temperatures. When we left the hut at about 4 am for our summit attempt, the temperature on the thermometer read 0 degrees. That did not include the wind chill, which increased the higher we got.

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#### Branndon is the host of The Highpointers television series on PBS.

He is a keynote speaker, mountain guide, and owns an outdoor adventure company which provides leadership and team building programs.

You can follow Branndon's expeditions at www.thehighpointers.com and @branndonbargo.

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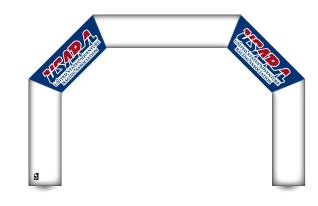
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The climb from the hut onward required crampons, trekking poles and the occasional ice axe in the icy, steeper sections. As we neared the summit, the sun began to make its way over the range painting the surrounding mountains in beautiful shades of pink and orange. We had a hard time keeping the beauty to ourselves. As we climbed, each of us had the same thought and expressed it out loud. "I can't believe Morocco is this beautiful, and has mountains that look like this!"

After about three and half hours we made it to the summit of Morocco's highest point. Mohammed surprised us by pulling out a thermos full of Moroccan mint tea. We stayed on top for about 20 minutes taking in the beautiful Atlas range. We made our way back down to the hut, rested about an hour, then continued on to Imlil.

Over the next 5 days we packed in as much as we could. This included an overnight camel trip in the Sahara, eating seafood in Casablanca, and a stay in a huge palace in the beautiful city of Fez.

Of the nearly 50 countries I have visited, Morocco is near the top of the list. In part, for its unique and wideranging geography, the ancient and historical cities of Fez and Marrakech, and most of all for the hospitality of the people. I always try to take away at least one life lesson from each country and mountain I visit. The lesson for me on this trip is to not let the darkness overpower the light. If we did allow it, fear would prevent us from enjoying beautiful mountain sunrises, Berber humor, and soothing Moroccan mint tea.





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# 2019 Grinder Nationals

#### by Carrie Sona

After the freezing cold 2018 Grinder Nationals and Gravelleur's Raid, my tandem captain (aka my hubby) and I were mentally preparing for anything that the 2019 version could bring. After experiencing the challenging course and top-notch event organization last year, we weren't going to miss it, and we got lucky with a good looking forecast for this go round. We pulled into the Lawrence, Kansas train depot for check-in and chatted with some old friends like our USARA buddy Troy. The check-in was smooth and organized with a really cute tech shirt (pink!) and swag from Clif Bar, Chamois Butr, GUTR, Science in Sport, Grangers, huggies, sunglasses, Orange Mud Buffs and more.



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**TIGER BALM Works Where It Hurts**  My favorite was the cold brew being served up by Alchemy, a local coffee shop that was delicious. We had a nice dinner with friends at Free State Brewing with a great food and beer selection and then headed to our Airbnb. Compared to the prep required on the night before an adventure race, a gravel race lends to a full night sleep!

The next morning, we headed to Johnny's Tavern for the 7 am start where there was plenty of parking and got ready to roll out. The route was similar to last year's with a neutral roll out for about 5 miles on the Lawrence Levy Trail followed by heading north for 2 loops with the southern loop being done clockwise and the northern loop done counterclockwise. There was a mandatory timing mat checkpoint at McLouth High School at mile 25 with an optional aid stop at mile 50. After that we went back through McLouth and over the mat at 75 before heading back to the finish line on the levy trail behind Johnny's. Those on the 100 mile route lined up in front with those doing the 50 just behind us. After the national anthem, the start gun fired, and we were off. The roll-out was a well-behaved slinky pack with several stop and goes. As the neutral rollout came to an end the pace picked up, and the race was on. We watched the fast folks peel off in a pack for a race at the front that was out of our league. We hit the first climb on the start of a hilly day at about mile 6. It was the normal tandem experience of getting passed on the climbs and passing on the downs and flats. We enjoyed chatting with the riders around us on the chilly and clear morning. Our rear tire felt soft, so we aired it up once before the 1st aid at mile 25.







## Bag the Bag

We started a new tradition at Grinder Nationals this year called "Bag the Bag." We placed a bean bag out on the course for riders to take a break by bagging the bag!



Several riders took the time to stop and get a picture bagging the bag!

The McLouth High School marching band had just disbanded as we rolled over the mat at the 25-mile aid station and I was bummed to have miss them. They had welcomed the riders to the aid station by playing for a little over an hour.

Between mile 25-50 we got a hole in the tread from a sharp rock and were forced to put in a plug. The tire was low and I could feel the rim hitting at times, but we kept rolling and enjoyed the blue bird skies and sunshine. I have a barn obsession and kept my eyes peeled to enjoy all of them and the beautiful farmland, cows, horses, ponds and homes. We were hoping to use a floor pump at the aid station at 50 if they had one, and luckily they did. The aid was well-stocked, so I enjoyed a snack and took one for the road! I'd never tried SIS gels before, and they were perfection. The tire felt great heading out of 50, and our mojo was renewed. We have a healthy rivalry with our tandem



buddies Jeff and Jackie from Walt's but they went for it from it from the gun we didn't see any chance of catching them today. The other coed tandem in the race was a couple from Texas and they were absolutely crushing it too so we just kept pushing and hoped to have a better second half to our day. We did catch a few folks but spent the majority of time riding alone. The course was lovely with only a few cars, and we literally only saw 2 dogs, both of them smiling and friendly. We had a nice tailwind for a bit but then hit stretch heading east that was tough with a headwind and climb after climb. On the way back through the McLouth High School Aid station, we rode through an unexpected Patriots' Day parade line up about to head out in the other direction and we weaved our way past some cool old cars and floats. We had been working hard and finally caught up to our female tandem friends heading out at 75. We promptly made a wrong turn and had to double back to get on course; I freak out a little with the Garmin circular routes, and I'm

never sure which way to go. Maybe it's just me, but I really should work to figure it out.

We had 25 miles to go and we were really done with climbing and were coming to a road that showed up on my Garmin as Stairstep Road. We were trying to decide if the stairs would go up or down. Luckily that road was pretty mild and was named for the right and left hand turns more than the elevation. I'm not good at remembering courses, so I went on Strava to help my memory. The segment names are really fun. The next section we hit was named, "Why is this steep-a\$\$ed hill on 3rd St. not a Strava segment?!" We caught a guy from Memphis around there and chatted for a bit but he pulled away after that. We finally hit the section named, "the last hill... for real this time" around mile 94. Hooray! That was followed by a 40+ mph downhill with chunky gravel that had a real pucker factor. My repeating mantra as the stoker on that downhill was "don't brake" while Jeff's was "it wants to stay up." Downhills are the most fun part of





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riding a tandem for sure! After that it was a flat stretch and a final push on the levy trail to the finish where we were greeted at the finish by Roger Williams the Course Director who handed us a ticket for a free slice of pizza and a Sierra Nevada from Johnny's Tavern.

We enjoyed the pizza and beer at Johnny's after the race and rehashing the day with our friends. The awards ceremony had a nice crowd to present a happy group with their well-deserved national championship jerseys. The winning overall time was an impressive 5:14:40. The prize table for the raffle was full of goodies like bike wash, lube, headlamps, water bottles, shirts, and socks with each racer leaving with more than 1 prize. The big ticket items were a set of Cantu wheels, a Lauf fork, and a Lupine light set. This is an event for all levels of riders from beginners to experienced riders as there are 3 distances to choose from. There is the 100 mile Grinder Nationals, The 50 mile Gravelleurs Raid (non championship ride), and a 25 mile relay course on the Gravelleurs Raid. Mark your calendar for next year on Saturday April 18, 2020 as this event is not to be missed.





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# **Product Reviews**

**SUMMER 2019** 

#### Balega

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#### OS1st Calf Compression Sleeve

OS1st Calf Compression Sleeves are a must have item for ay serious athlete. The Compression Sleeves reduce the impact vibration of the calf muscle, stabilize the Achilles tendon and boost oxygenation during exercise. The medical grade compression sleeves reduce pain and inflammation that come from strenuous workouts and sports-related injuries while improving circulation and supporting your tendons, ligaments and muscles. OS1st Calf Compression Sleeves provide great post exercise benefits by accelerating the healing and recovery process. So what are you waiting for? Slip into a pair of OS1st Calf Compression Sleeves and start enjoying the benefits. www.os1st.com

#### Tiger Balm Active Muscle Rub

Tiger Balm Active Muscle Rub provides fast relief for sprains, strains, sore and tired muscles. Perfect for warm up before exercise or for relief after a hard day on the trails, Tiger Balm Active will help you recover quickly for your next adventure. Just apply the non-greasy Tiger Balm to your sore muscles or joints and enjoy the relief. Tiger Balm Active is available in a 2 ounce squeeze tube and will not stain your clothes. www.tigerbalm.com







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# **Product Reviews**

#### Morsel Spork

The Morsel Spork is a new take on a required piece of camping equipment. Available in a long and short version, the dishwasher and boiling safe Morsel's design allows you to get every morsel from just about any shaped food container. The extra tuff full sized fork has a safe for your mouth cutting edge on both sides. The functional shaped spoon has a rubbery edge that gets every morsel from tight corners and flat edges. Finally, the long version will keep you from getting food on your hands or jacket when reaching into deep bowls or freeze-dried food bags. The Morsel is a must have item for any serious camper. www.morselspork.com



**SUMMER 2019** 



#### Toad & Company Tara Hemp Sleeveless Jumpsuit

The Toad & Company Tara Hemp Sleeveless Jumpsuit is a fun and easy outfit that is suited for all types of adventures. The stretch hemp material is light weight, cool and naturally wicks moisture while maintaining the classic linen look. Perfect for summer concerts, farmers markets or a night on the town. Available in 2 colors the Tara Hemp Jumpsuit is a great travel piece that will share so many of your outings it will become one of the gang. www.toadandco.com

#### Zero Tolerance 0460 Ti

Zero Tolerance has taken one of their most popular knives and brought it back in an all titanium version - the 0460 Ti. Designed by Dmitry Sinkevich, the CPM 20CV blade steel is tough and resistant to edge chipping while holding a great edge over an extended period of time. A ball-bearing opener makes it easy to flip the 0460Ti into a ready position and a pronounced ergonomic handle curve gives the knife a great feel. ZT added a matte black anodized aluminum backs pacer and black pocket clip to give the 0460Ti a

classic 2 tone look. The ZT 0460 Ti is a beautiful and functional knife that just may become your everyday go to blade. zt.kaiusaltd.com



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# **Product Reviews**

**SUMMER 2019** 

### LifeStraw Universal

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### Camp Zero 40 Premium Cooler

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No Sleep Adventure Race	06/08/19
Maine Summer AR	06/22/19
Massanutten Massacre	06/22/19
Never Summer	06/22/19
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The Longest Day	09/2019
Tahoe Big Blue	09/14/19
TCX Palos	09/14/19
MAFF	10/2019
Coosa River Challenge	10/05/19
Expedition Florida	10/22/19
Jersey Inferno	12/2019
Raid the Rock	12/2019

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# Target Roundup

### by Troy Farrar

There are a lot of shooters who are building their own ranges these days for a multitude of reasons. Many want the convenience of shooting at their own place, some want more practice and others just enjoy spending time on the range. We will be testing and reviewing targets each month to help our readers find fun and unique high-quality targets for their ranges.

# RMP Target Stand Bracket Kit With 4", 6", 8" Set and Spring load Targets

The RMP Target Stand Bracket Kit With 4", 6", 8" set and spring load targets is the perfect set to start your home range. Grab a couple of 2 x 4's and attach the highcarbon steel RMP brackets with the included bolts and you are ready to hang targets and start banging gongs. The kit includes the mounting chains along with 4", 6" and 8" gong targets that are CNC laser cut from 3/8' AR 500 steel. The swinging gong and audible bing provided instant feedback for hits even at long distances. The 2 spring loaded targets lay down and then rebound back to ready position automatically after each hit. The RMP kit offers a great variety of targets that can be used for both pistols and high-powered rifles. Hang them all together or hang in different locations at your home range. No matter how you hang them, the RMP targets will provide tons of fun and practice shooting at a variety of targets. www.rmpstore.com



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# **Shooting & Hunting Reviews**



### Holland's Lightning Strike Fire Starter

Holland's Lightning Strike Fire Starter is a beautiful piece of CNC machined aluminum which will draw any man's attention like a moth to light. The Lightning Strike has a built in tinder storage compartment which holds enough tinder for over a dozen fires. The flint is replaceable, and the fire starter is simple to use. The Lightning Strike was appropriately named giving off massive amounts of scorching sparks making this fire starter effective even on wet days. Get one for your camping kit and never worry about going cold again. www.hollandguns.com



### Holland's Napalm Tinder

Holland's Waterproof Napalm Tinder is the perfect firestarting companion for the Lightning Strike.

Simply peel the wafer apart, exposing the fibers inside and use the Lightning Strike Firestarter to ignite the wafer. The Napalm Tinder wafer will burn for approximately 4 minutes, allowing you to build a roaring fire. Each Napalm Tinder container holds 9 wafers which will make your fire-building a snap in any weather condition. www.hollandguns.com



# ZT 0393 GLCF

The ZT 0393 GLCF is an upgrade to the 0393 that has an unusual but useful feature that may help find your misplaced knife. Designed by Rick Hinderer, the knife features a titanium handle and a CPM 20CV "spanto" blade. The tough, wear resistant blade holds an edge and features a working finish that hides scratches and matches the handle finish. Featuring a KVT ball-bearing system & flipper, the 0393CF will open smoothly & quickly every time. Weighing in at 5 ounces, the made in the USA 8.25 inch knife has a reversible titanium pocket clip. And now for the special new feature – a glow in the dark handle. That's right the contoured carbon fiber overlay handle will actually glow in the dark and help you find your knife when you set in down at night. https://zt.kaiusaltd.com



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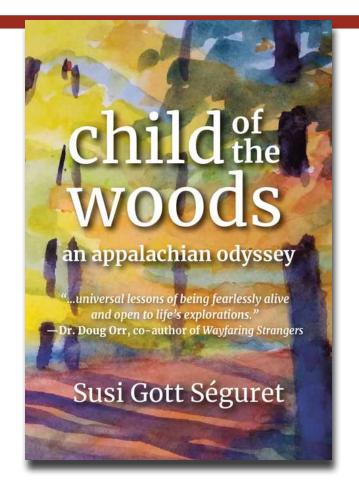
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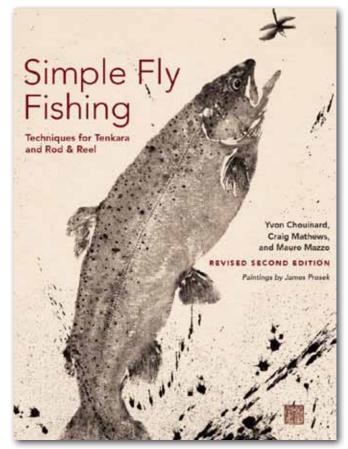


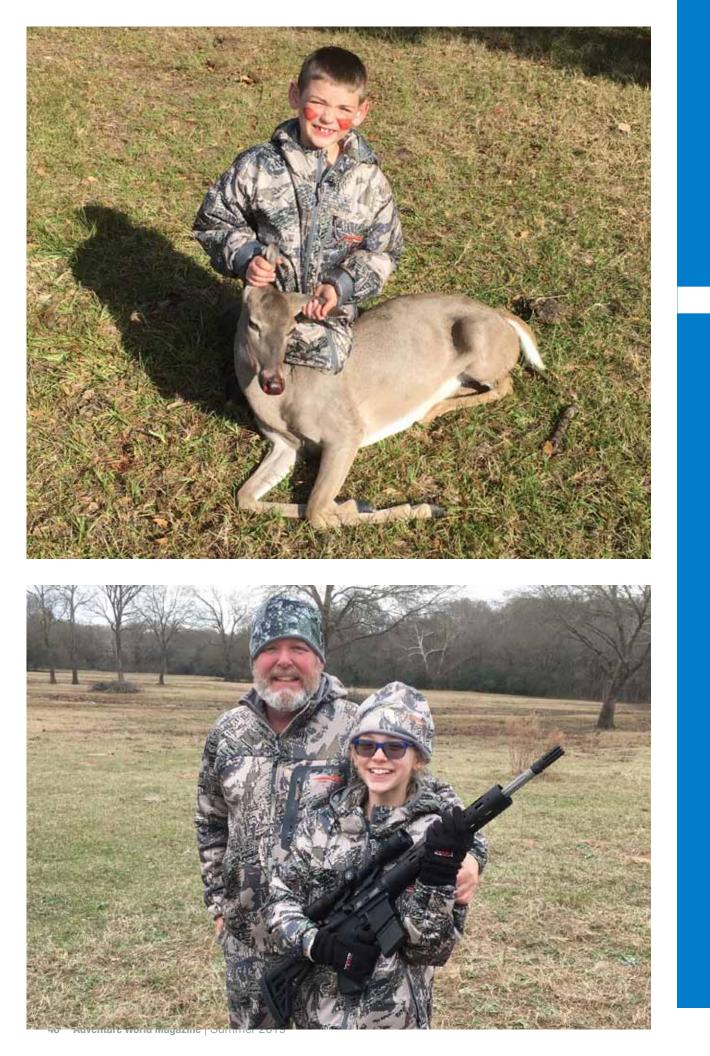
# Child of the Woods By Susi Gott Seguret

Immerse yourself in the vibrant and exciting world of Appalachia! Child of the Woods is an exploration of the world through the eyes of a young child, whose life was defined and enriched by nature that surrounded her. This collection of short stories and insights highlights the wonders of growing up in rural Appalachia, learning to live as one with the land. These stories embrace the universal themes of self-discovery, adventure, and finding one's place in a living world. www.penguinrandomhouse.com

# Simple Fly Fishing, Techniques for Tenkara Rod & Reel by Chouinard, Matthews & Mazzo

The newly revised 2nd edition of Simple Fly Fishing, Techniques for Tenkara Rod & Reel is a beloved guidebook that teaches the easiest (and most fun) way to fish. It's Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard's "the more you know, the less you need" mantra applied to fly fishing. Simple Fly Fishing is for experienced angler who wants to replace the gadgets with skill, knowledge and simplicity. Since 2015, Patagonia founder and lifelong fly fisherman Yvon Chouinard has been using a single type of fly (the Pheasant Tail and Partridge) and says he's caught more fish with it than he's ever caught in his life. "I've learned that all these hundreds of thousands of fly patterns in different colors and shapes are totally unnecessary. You can replace all of them with knowledge and technique." Co-authored with fly-fishing gurus Mauro Mazzo and Craig Mathews, Simple Fly Fishing offers an introduction to the ancient Japanese no-reel, tenkara technique. Stripping away the complexity, elitism and expense of fly fishing, tenkara takes us back to a simpler time when the joy of fishing came from a willow stick rod, wiggly worms and wet boots. www.patagonia.com/shop/books





# FIRST DEERHUNT

### by Troy Farrar

I have taken my kids with me on both deer and hog hunts for several years. We have enjoyed sitting in the blind together and they have seen me shoot both deer and hogs on these trips. We have gone through the typical growing pains of restless little ones who would rather see how fast they can spin the chair in the deer stand than worrying about how much noise that makes. We have scared off deer because we were talking to loud in the blind or moving around too much when we were sitting on the ground. We have even scared off game when my son decided to have an imaginary sword fight using a stick (behind us) while me and my daughter were preparing to shoot a hog that was approaching. But that is just part of hunting with little kids. As an adult we have to learn to roll with the punches, to laugh a little more and to realize that it is all about spending time with our kids in the woods. Telling a kid to sit still and be quiet for hours is about the most unnatural thing we can do. We need to realize that it will take time for our little ones to learn how to stay quiet & be still. There are going to be times when they are done for the day right before the best hunting hour. If we want to keep it fun, we have to say OK and pack it up even though we may miss a chance to shoot a deer that day. But if we bring them along in kid manageable time periods, make it fun and are more interested in spending time with them than the hunt, they will enjoy going hunting. They will also get better at sitting still and being quiet over time as they develop an understanding of hunting. Keep it fun and keep taking them with you and before you know it you will have a good hunter on your hands. There will be plenty of time when they are bigger for those serious hunts, now is the time to have fun and enjoy your time together in the woods.

After a few years of coming along with me on hunts I decided it was time for my little guys to get behind the scope. We started by practicing with a crossbow in the back yard and they quickly became good, consistent shooters. I believe they already had a great foundation from all of the time we had spent shooting open site BB guns and working on things like consistency, breathing & squeezing the trigger. Once I felt they were ready we started with



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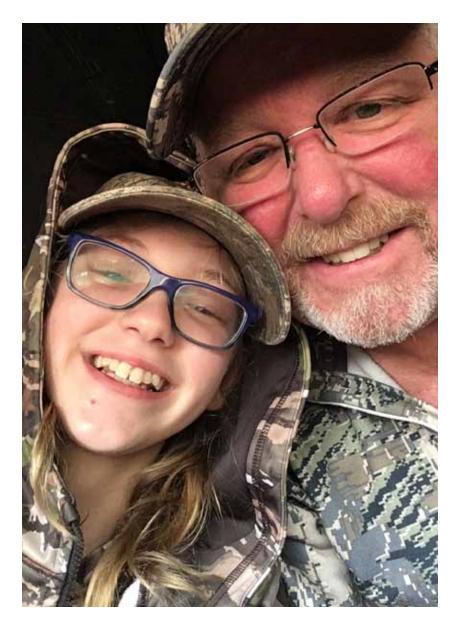


a crossbow hog hunt. Both kids did well and Luke (9 at the time) killed his first hog. My daughter Izzy (11 at the time) made a good shot on a hog and hit it but we were unable to recover the hog. So now it was time to make the jump

to a rifle for deer season. We worked on accuracy at 50 yards as I planned for that to be the maximum limit for their first hunt. We used a life like deer paper target with no markings because I wanted to train them to shoot in the correct spot, and there are no bullseyes on live deer. After a few practice sessions, both kids became very consistent marksmen with Izzy rising to the top. Izzy could consistently put 3 shots inside a quarter

be plenty will of There time when they are bigger those serious for hunts. Now is the time to have fun and enjoy your time together the woods. in

at 50 yards. Luke was not far behind with his 3 shot groups fitting in a 2 inch by 2 inch square. I felt like they both



had put in the work to get prepared. Now that they were ready, it was time to go on a hunt. Our parameters would be spikes or does at 50 yards or less, something I believed both of them could successfully achieve.

We are blessed to have a couple of friends with ranches that invite us to go hunting each year. We started at

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Bucksnort Ranch during the youth season and after a weekend of hunting had not taken a shot. We saw several deer but did not ever have a good chance. This was a great lesson for the kids, that we do not always shoot something when we go hunting. They learned that it takes patience and fortitude to become a good hunter. Next, we tried our luck at C.T. Ranch and Luke was able to shoot his first doe! The doe came out to feed in front of us after a couple of hours in the blind. Luke was patient and took his time, he waited until the deer was in a good position and then he took the shot. He was grinning from ear to ear most of the day after shooting that deer. He even asked me, "can I get stripes again since this is my first deer?" He had gotten his first set of stripes when he shot the hog last year. I replied, "of course" and proudly gave him his first deer stripes, a tradition that has been passed down for generations in my family. We gave the meat from Luke's first deer to my father. Luke was so excited when Papaw called one night to thank him for the delicious meal he just had that Luke provided. Izzy and I went several times and saw a few deer, but we never had a good shot, so she is anxiously waiting for next year.

If you enjoy hunting and have kids I highly encourage you to start taking them with you on your hunts. It is such a joy to spend time in the woods hunting together. It is a privilege to pass down the skills and train the next generation of hunters, just as our fathers did for us. I have really enjoyed our time as a family hunting together and look

forward to watching my kids train the next generation of hunters one day. AW





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# lupinenorthamerica.com

# Takedown AR-15

by Kevin Smith

We decided to build a compact AR-15 that could be broken down into a tiny footprint and carried in a small bag or pack for both convenience and as a deterrent from theft. The takedown component was necessary to achieve the small size; however reliability, rapid deployment and accuracy were an even more important requirement. We utilized a few vital components to achieve our goals including the Pantheon Arms Dolos takedown down system which was key for rapid takedown & deployment. We also needed a foldable stock and chose the Deadfoot Arms MCS as it was the only folder that allowed the rifle to function while the stock was folded. For the other components we chose quality parts such as a Elftmann match grade trigger, a Ballistic Advantage barrel, Anderson Manufacturing receiver set and the Gear Head Works Tailhook. The result was a rifle that would breakdown and store with a crazy small foot print that could be reassembled quickly and would perform with consistent reliability and accuracy. We believe this is a perfect build for a bug out bag, home defense or as a vehicular carry when traveling or RVing. We have reviewed all of the necessary components you would need to assemble your own small footprint takedown AR-15.

The take down AR-15 is not much longer than a 30 round magazine when broken down - now that is a tiny footprint!



### Pantheon Arms Prometheus SC

The Pantheon Arms Dolos system is a rapid takedown and deployment system for AR-15s. The Dolos system allows you to breakdown your AR-15 and conceal it in a small bag or backpack with the capability of deployment in less than 10 seconds. The Dolos sys-

tem can also be used for rapid barrel or caliber changes and makes cleaning much easier. The Prometheus SC includes the Dolos take down system along with a SC carbon length handguard. Constructed of 6061, 7075 aluminum and hardened 400 series and 17-4 stainless steel the Dolos system is built for years of tough use without sacrificing functionality. www.pantheonarms.com

# Elftmann Elf Match Trigger

The Elftmann Elf Match is a drop-in, single-stage trigger with adjustable weight of pull. The installation was easy. Set screws on the bottom of the module are extended so as to bottom out on the receiver to stabilize or lock down the module and lock screws are installed on top of the set screws to anchor the set screws. The instructions are clear and easy to follow. The Elftmann Match trigger has no creep with a crisp release. The adjustment screw has

a large travel. The lightest was 2 3/4 lbs. and the heaviest was around 4 ½ lbs. I noticed no issues with gloves, just adjust the pull weight as necessary for safety. Available with a curved and straight shoe the Elf Match Trigger is a great upgrade for your rifle. www.elftactical.com

### Deadfoot ARMS MCS

The Deadfoot Arms MCS (Modified Cycle System) is much more than an awesome folding stock. The MCS is a folding stock that will still fire when folded, which could be critical in an emergency situation. The MCS does this by including a compatible BCG or you can use Dead Foot Arms service to modify your BCG and make it compatible. The MCS also comes with a buffer spring, recoil spring, a plunger and of course the folding block assembly. Right handed shooters should order the right handed version as it is more comfortable to shoot when folded and much easier to unfold quickly. The Deadfoot Arms MCS folding stock is an awesome upgrade that will keep your rifle functioning as it should in any configuration. www.deadfootarms.com

### Gear Head Works Tailhook MOD 1



The Gear Head Works Tailhook MOD 1 is one of the lightest and most compact pistol braces available. Gear Head Works started with a solid piece of billet aluminum and when they were finished, the MOD 1 brace is less than 1 inch thick and weighs a mere 4.5 ounces. Clamp the brace to a pistol buffer tube or adapter spud and deploy with the simple push of a button providing a stable shelf that counterbalances the muzzle weight of your rifle. The MOD 1 can be set up for true one handed right or left handed use and features a limited rotation sling swivel QD socket and a flat black hard anodized finish. For a compact, lightweight, durable brace, the Grea Head Works MOD 1 cannot be beat. www.gearheadworks.com

# Deadfoot ARMS Telescoping Adapter Tube

The Deadfoot Arms Telescoping Adapter Tube was specifically designed for use with Gear Head Works Tailhook MOD1, the G-Rex Brace and the T-Rex Stock. Simply attach your brace or stock to the 7075-aluminum telescoping tube and enjoy 5 length of pull options and button free, lightning fast deployment. The Deadfoot Arms Telescoping Adapter is the perfect upgrade for your MCS foldable stock and will provide a very compact footprint that can be deployed quickly. www.deadfootarms.com



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### Anderson Manufacturing AM-15 Stripped Upper Receiver

The Anderson Manufacturing AM-15 Stripped Upper Receiver is machined to Mil Spec standards from 7075 T6 Aluminum and mates perfectly with the Anderson lower receiver. Anderson gives you the option of RF85 coating, forward assist and dust covers and all uppers feature M4 feed ramps, picatinny rails and have type III hard coat black anodizing. The Anderson Manufacturing AM-15 upper is a great choice when building you next rifle. www.andersonmanufacturing.com

### Ballistic Advantage B. A. Hansen Barrel

The Ballistic Advantage B. A. Hansen series barrels are specifically designed to yield the best results for the length of barrel and caliber chosen. We chose a 7.5 inch barrel chambered in 5.56 which is machined from 4150 Chrome Moly Vanadium steel with a QPQ Corrosion Resistant Finish. The 17-ounce B. A. Hansen series barrel features a 1:7 twist rate, nickel boron coated M4 feed ramp extension, and a pinned lo-pro gas block. Ballistic Advantage is so confident in their US made barrels that they offer an accuracy guarantee that their barrels will provide sub Minute of Angle (MOA) accuracy with match grade ammunition. For an accurate, durable

barrel you cannot go wrong with a Ballistic Advantage B. A. Hansen series barrel. www.ballisticadvantage.com



# Anderson Manufacturing AM-15 Lower Receiver with Parts Kit

The Anderson Manufacturing Am-15 Lower Receiver is the perfect foundation for your next build. The mil spec receivers are CNC machined from 7075 T6 forged aluminum with a black type III hard anodized finish. Anderson receivers are multi-cal engraved and available as a standard receiver or with numerous engraving options. Anderson also offers an RF85 nano technology treatment that injects calcium into the molecular fabric of the metal which elongates to form a protective barrier that eliminates the need for lubrication while reducing friction by 85%. We chose a lower that included a parts kit so it was ready to go right out of the box. No matter which option you choose, Anderson

Manufacturing receiver sets will lay a great foundation for your next rifle build. www.andersonmanufacturing.com

Adventure World Magazine | Summer 2019

# **300 Blackout Upper**

### by: Troy Farrar

After considering the available rifles in my safe and even a cut down .222 that a friend was going to loan me, I decided to build an upper for my kids to use as a deer rifle. One of the driving factors was how much lighter the AR platform gun was compared to a wood stock bolt action rifle. My 10 & 12 year old really struggled with the weight of the bolt action guns both when hiking with the gun and when lifting the rifle to take a shot. I chose to build the upper in a 300 Blackout as it has the range to cover the distance that my children could accurately shoot and provided good knock down power so they could have an ethical hunt. I felt they could practice with the low recoil 300 Blackout and not be afraid of the kick but still benefit from the stopping power of the caliber. When the build was all said and done, I believe we have a reliable, light weight, accurate upper that they will be comfortable using for their deer rifle through their teens.



# Anderson Manufacturing Stripped Upper Receiver

The Anderson Manufacturing Stripped Upper Receiver is the perfect foundation for your next upper build. The mil spec receiver is 7075 T6 forged aluminum with a black type 3 hard anodized finish. Anderson receivers are available as a standard receiver or with numerous engraving options. Anderson also offers an RF85 nano technology treatment that injects calcium into the molecular fabric of the metal which elongates to form a protective barrier that eliminates the need for lubrication while reducing friction by 85%. No matter which option you choose, Anderson Manufacturing receivers will lay a great foundation for your next rifle build www.andersonmanufacturing.com

# Vortex 4-12 x 40 Diamondback

The Vortex 4-12 x 40 Diamondback is a waterproof, fog proof and shock proof fully multi-coated scope that is perfect for your deer rifle. We choose the Diamondback as the optic with the plan of keeping things simple by setting it and leaving it on 4 power while the kids were young, knowing the variable power optic could grow with them making this a great rifle scope for hunters of any age. The Dead-Hold BDC is a second focal plane reticle and provides subtensions for hold over and wind drift. The crisp and clear Vortex Diamondback is packet full of features at a very reasonable price.

a very reasonable price. www.vortexoptics.com

# Ranier Arms MOD2 UltraMatch Barrel

The Ranier Arms MOD2 UltraMatch barrel is a balance that provides accuracy while keeping the weight to a minimum. Ranier starts with a pistol gas system Stainless Steel Match Grade Blank and adds contour cut outs to reduce the weight. The 16-inch barrel weighed in at 1lb 15.7 ounces and features a bead blasted finish and a 1:7.5 twist. Ranier Arms goal is to mass produce the barrels to provide a low price while maintain high quality and they have literally hit their target. Ranier is so confident that you will like the barrel that they offer a no questions asked, 90 day 100% money back guarantee, but I doubt you will need it. www.rainierarms.com





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# Ranier Arms Adjustable Gas Block

The Ranier Arms adjustable gas block has a unique design that bleeds the gas out of the block and forward away from the shooter instead of restricting the flow like conventional adjustable blocks. The pressure is reduced to the amount required to drive the bolt carrier with the excess being bleed off resulting in a cleaner and cooler system. The 30 position removable adjustment detent is located outside of the block to prevent contamination, corrosion or possible seizing and has a safety mechanism to prevent accidental removal. The Superlative Arms adjustable gas block is a game changer which is available in 4 sizes, solid & clamp on and black melonite or matte stainless steel finishes. The Superlative Arms adjustable gas block will reduce both the recoil and the amount of gas & particle blowback you sustain when shooting suppressed firearms. www.rainierarms.com

# Radian Raptor SD

The Radian Raptor SD ambidextrous charging handle features a ported shaft design that redirects gasses down and forward away from the shooter's face and minimizes blowback when shooting suppressed firearms. The US made 7075-T6 aluminum Raptor SD is designed for rapid palm "blading" or finger-thumb charging of the weapon with either hand. Available in an AR-15 and

AR-10 model the charging handle comes in black anodized, brown, flat dark earth, NP3 coated and tungsten gray finishes. The Radian Raptor SD charging handle is smooth, functional & effective and will increase your control and decrease those blowback gases when shooting a suppressed firearm. www.radianweapons.com

# V7 Weapon Systems Extreme Environment Gas Tube

The made in the USA V7 Extreme Environment Gas Tube is designed to perform under high temperature firing schedules without failure, eliminating the weak link in the gas system and insuring your weapon will function properly when needed. The 100% corrosion resistant gas tube features a heat-treated Inconel construction with an ion bind black finish. Available in pistol, carbine, mid-length and rifle length, the gas tube features a lifetime warranty and will give you peace of mind even under the heaviest firing schedule. www.vsevenweaponsystems.com

# Strike Industries Venom Flash Hider

Strike claims the Venom Flash Hider is the world's most effective flash hider, eliminating nearly 100% of your muzzle flash by quickly dispersing the burning gases exploding from the barrel. Strike Industries does this by creating instant air flow to eliminate gas combustion and the result will preserve your night vision. The functional result is a rapid sight recovery which allows for faster night time and low light follow up shots. The four pronged Viper looks great and is designed to protect the muzzle crown of your barrel. On a side note, the Viper is long enough to make 14 ½" Barrel 16" and comes with pre-drilled hole for pin and welding. www.strikeindustries.com



# Hornady 300 Blackout 110gr GMX Full Boar

The Hornady 300 Blackout 110gr GMX Full Boar is the perfect ammunition for hog or deer hunting. The GMX monolithic copper alloy bullets provide deep penetration and deliver uniform, controlled expansion with a 95%+ weight retention for superior terminal performance. The Hornady 300 Blackout 110gr GMX Full Boar have a Muzzle velocity 2350 FPS and will provide you with superior performance. www.hornady.com

# Tactical Expressions Engraved Upper

Tactical Expressions are our go to guys for engraving on uppers, lowers or any other gun part. Tactical Expressions carries a huge selection of engraved upper and lower parts in just about any color you can imagine so you can customize your gun exactly how you like. We like to have our different uppers

engraved with the calibers to prevent accidentally loading the wrong round, especially when there is more than one shooter who has access to the guns. Tactical Expressions allows you to choose your font and did an excellent job of engraving our 300 Blackout upper on this build. Let Tactical Expressions help you create that unique one of a kind rifle. www.tactical-expressions.com

